



December, 2022

Brigade Commander:

Barry Arnold

Regimental Commander:

Laura Kleinschmidt

**Adjutant & Company
Commander:**

Claire Kukielka

Brigade Librarian

Kay Bagenstose

Paymaster:

Jim Duffy

Membership Director:

Jeff Gates

Board Members:

Neil Coddington

Bill Frankenfield

Jeff Gates

Kim Jacobs

Tony Major

Ed Root

Frank Whelan

Newsletter Editor:

Marie Maly

Webmaster:

Paul Bartlett

**Civil War Roundtable of
Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc.**

P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105

website: www.cwrteasternpa.org

email: malymc@ptd.net

We strive for accuracy. But if you see something that doesn't look right, please contact us. Sources for newsletter content available upon request.

From the Brigade Commander

The Fall, 2022, issue of *Hallowed Ground* includes a listing of the members of the Color Bearer Society of the American Battlefield Trust (ABT). Among them (once again): The CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. (in the \$2,500 - \$4,900 category). Calling its Color Bearers "extremely generous," the ABT thanks these individuals, organizations and families, which represent just three percent of ABT's total membership, for their "extraordinary commitment to the mission of saving our nation's most hallowed ground." Nearly 50 percent of all gifts received by the ABT come from members of the Color Bearer Society.

In the midst of the current turbulence that we are all living through, we can take heart in knowing that Round Table members, past and present, have and are making an important and lasting, positive contribution to America and Americans. Congratulations to us all!

Look inside for news about future volunteering opportunities at Gettysburg National Military Park, information about our December 6 lecture/speaker and a local Civil War learning opportunity, plus coming releases of Civil War books, including a few written especially for kids, releasing just in time for the soon-to-arrive season of gift giving. Wishing you and yours all of the hope, joy and wonder that the Season can bring!

Barry

The Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc. is a proud leader of America's battlefield preservation movement. It has been designated by the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) as a Top 300 Lifetime Donor, a Brigade member of the Color Bearer Society, and a member of ABT's 25-Year Club.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Our 45th Campaign Year! ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Tom Fontana presents: "Lincoln Lite"

Tuesday, December 6, 2022



Although best known and admired for his character, political skills, leadership qualities, and accomplishments, President Abraham Lincoln also had a humorous side. December's speaker, Tom Fontana, will share stories about Lincoln's lighter side as remem-

bered by those who knew him. Tom will also share some of the songs Lincoln enjoyed, which Tom will perform and, at times, invite audience participation.

Musician, local living history presenter, photographer and writer Tom Fontana is a resident of Gettysburg, where he presents musical programs and participates with reenactor bands in and around the Gettysburg National Military Park. Some of you may remember Tom, who has twice visited our Round Table to musically accompany lectures presented by Rev. Dr. Nancy Hale.

SIGN UP TODAY

to attend "Lincoln Lite."

Dinner & lecture fee: \$30 ★ Lecture-only fee: \$5

As always, all fees are payable at the door.

Delta Hotel by Marriot • 7736 Adrienne Drive • Breiningsville (formerly Holiday Inn)

Dinner start: 6:30 p.m. ★ Lecture start: ~ 7:15 p.m.

Deadline to reserve a spot for dinner:

Friday, December 2, by/before 12:00 p.m.

To register, contact Jim Duffy (duffysocwk@aol.com) or 610-253-4549 (email preferred).

Walk-in lecture reservations are NOT required!

WE INVITE YOU TO MORE FULLY IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE 19TH CENTURY BY WEARING PERIOD GARB OR REENACTMENT COSTUME TO THE DINNER MEETING AND LECTURE.

November Meeting Wrap-up

★ Despite stiff competition from a televised Phillies playoff game, we managed to attract 24 dinner attendees and 13 walk-ins.

★ Thanks to all who purchased tickets for our November **book raffle**, which resulted in revenue of \$93. Cumulative revenue for the Campaign 45 book raffle is \$263.



Book raffle winners for November:

I-r: Gary Weaver, Samuel Parker, Don Levick, David Hohe, Sheri Miller, Rich Jankowski, Paul Bartlett, Marie Maly



November speaker, Rich Rosenthal

(left), presented some of the backstories related to Grant's General Order #11 and

Judah Benjamin, a key character in the Confederacy's cabinet.

Mr. Rosenthal will donate the \$50 honorarium presented by the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. to the North Jersey CWRT.

CWRT of Eastern Pa. Round Table News

Member News

★ Recent reenlistments for Campaign 45 include John M. Duffy and Richard Van Diaz. Thanks for your continued support.

★ Thanks to Kay Basenstose for her most recent donation to the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc.

Conservation and Preservation Support

★ Our Round Table presented donations to Laurel Hill Cemetery and the Union League of Philadelphia in thanks for guided visits to these locations during our fall field trip.

★ The CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. is once again listed as a member the American Battlefield Trust's Color Bearer Society. (See front page for details.)

★ Update from Ed Root: Gettysburg National Military Park's Adopt-A-Position Program



Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP) recently announced a new process for directing its volunteering opportunities. Henceforth, the park will concentrate its efforts on creating events focused on the park's highest priorities and most urgent needs, and then sync those activities with national efforts such as Park Day and Lands Day. Smaller, individual efforts focused on specific locations, like the one our Round Table has participated in for several years, will be discontinued.

The GNMP has expressed its appreciation for the volunteer efforts put forth through the Adopt-A-Position Program and will be sharing available, upcoming volunteer opportunities this spring. On behalf of the Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc., let me add my voice to theirs by thanking past participants for their hands-on support of Civil War conservation efforts at GNMP.

A Civil War Learning Opportunity for Seniors (55+)

The Penn State Lehigh Valley campus (Center Valley) will host a presentation on Michael Shaara's book, "Killer Angels," which will be given by speaker Tad Fenton, an educator and historian with a Masters of Arts in History. The event is part of the college's Senior Adults Gaining Enrichment program, which is designed for adults over 55 years of age; the lecture offers an opportunity to discuss the Battle of Gettysburg through the eyes of individuals such as John Buford, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, James Longstreet, and Robert E. Lee.

Friday, December 9

Penn State Lehigh Valley, 2809 Saucon Valley Rd., Center Valley Pa.

Lecture: 11-12 PM, **Lunch:** 12 - 1 PM

Cost: \$20.00 per person. Check or cash only.

Registration is **REQUIRED** for this lifetime learning opportunity. If interested, contact Jamie Merida at 610-285-5000 or jmerida@psu.edu.



Civil War Community News: www.cwrteasternpa.org/news

November 7: Adams County H. S. Announces Weeklong History Consortium Programming

November 7: Adams County H. S.'s New Museum to Display Rare Civil War Images from Private Collection

November 2: Four Sites Added to Reconstruction Era National Historic Network

November 2: Organizations Calling on Congress to Take Measures to Reopen Vicksburg National Military Park

October 21: Discounts Available for Civil War Institute in Gettysburg (June 9-14, 2023)

October 21: A New Virtual Reality Tour at the Restored Old Gettysburg Train Station

Preservation: www.cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

November 17: An Unparalleled Opportunity at Gettysburg

November 17: Protect Missouri's Civil War Battlefields

November 11: American Battlefield Trust Hopes to Purchase General Pickett's Buffet

November 8: Firing the First Shot of the American Civil War at Fort Johnson

October 26: Lend Your Voice to Stop Massive Data Centers near Antietam Battlefield

October 16: Preserve Acres at Antietam and Shepherdstown

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Join Us!

Remaining Campaign 45 Presentations

Our lineup of speakers for Campaign 45 offers chances for greater understanding of the American Civil War; these presentations are sure to leave you feeling inspired.

Date	Title	Speaker
Jan 3	A Fiery Fall: Mosby in the Shenandoah (1864)	Eric Buckland
Feb 7	An Evening with Devil Dan, American Scoundrel, Sickles the Incredible	"Maj. Gen. Daniel Sickles"
Mar 7	The History of the Grand Army of the Republic	Andy Waskie
Apr 4	The Victorian Historian: Victorian Life in the 1860s	Adam Shefts
May 2	(Female) Nurses of Gettysburg at the Spangler Farm	Ron Kirkwood
June 6	Mourning Customs and History	Gretchen and James Kennedy

You'll find preliminary lecture synopses at www.cwrteasterpa.org/calendar-1 and more expansive synopses in the newsletter that precedes each lecture.

NOTE: Speaker conflicts can cause presentations/presenters or presentation dates to change.

Campaign 45 Print Raffle Preservation Fundraiser

You can purchase tickets at all Round Table meetings OR send a check (\$5 for a 10-ticket booklet), payable to "Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.," to: P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105. If you mail your payment, your stubs will be returned to you by return mail.

- ★ Framed print (38" x 29 ½") of Gettysburg Battlefield that was addressed to General Meade and signed by Union generals
- ★ Framed print (27 ½" x 24") of Abraham Lincoln
- ★ Framed (24 ½" x 18 ½") front page of *NY Tribune*, Wed., Apr. 19, 1865 (incl. certification paper)
- ★ Small framed letter from D.S. Roth to Peter S. Hamilton dated 11/16/1864 (11" x 9")
- ★ Union General Service Button found at Harper's Ferry with a picture of a cannon on Bolivar Heights (donated by Barry Arnold)
- ★ Tie with Confederate flag
- ★ 2-volume set: *Lincoln's Speeches and Writings* (Vol 1: 1832-1858; Vol 2: 1859-1865)
- ★ "The Campaign of Chancellorsville: A Strategic and Tactical Study" John Bigelow Jr. (1910 edition)
- ★ "Antietam - The Photographic Legacy of America's Bloodiest Day," by William A Frassanito
- ★ "The Civil War Dictionary" - signed by Mark M. Boatner III (1959 edition)
- ★ 2-volume set - "Abraham Lincoln - The Prairie Years" by Carl Sandberg (1929 edition)
- ★ 4-volume set - "Abraham Lincoln - The War Years" by Carl Sandberg (1939 edition)
- ★ 2-volume set - "Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant" (1885 edition)
- ★ 2-volume set "Lincoln Finds a General: A Military Study of the Civil War;" first edition by Kenneth P. Williams
- ★ Framed print (size) of Ben Crippen, 143rd PVI, shaking his fist at Confederates of the first day at Gettysburg
- ★ 2-volume set = "Stonewall Jackson" by Lenior Chambers (Vol 1: The Legend and the Man to the Valley; Vol 2: Seven Days to the Last March) (1956 edition)
- ★ 3-volume set - "Lee's Lieutenants" by Douglas Southall (Vol 1: Manassas to Malvern Hill - 1942 edition); Vol 2: Cedar Mountain to Chancellorsville - 1943 edition; Vol 3: Gettysburg to Appomattox - 1944 edition

A Special January, 2023, Raffle to Benefit Preservation



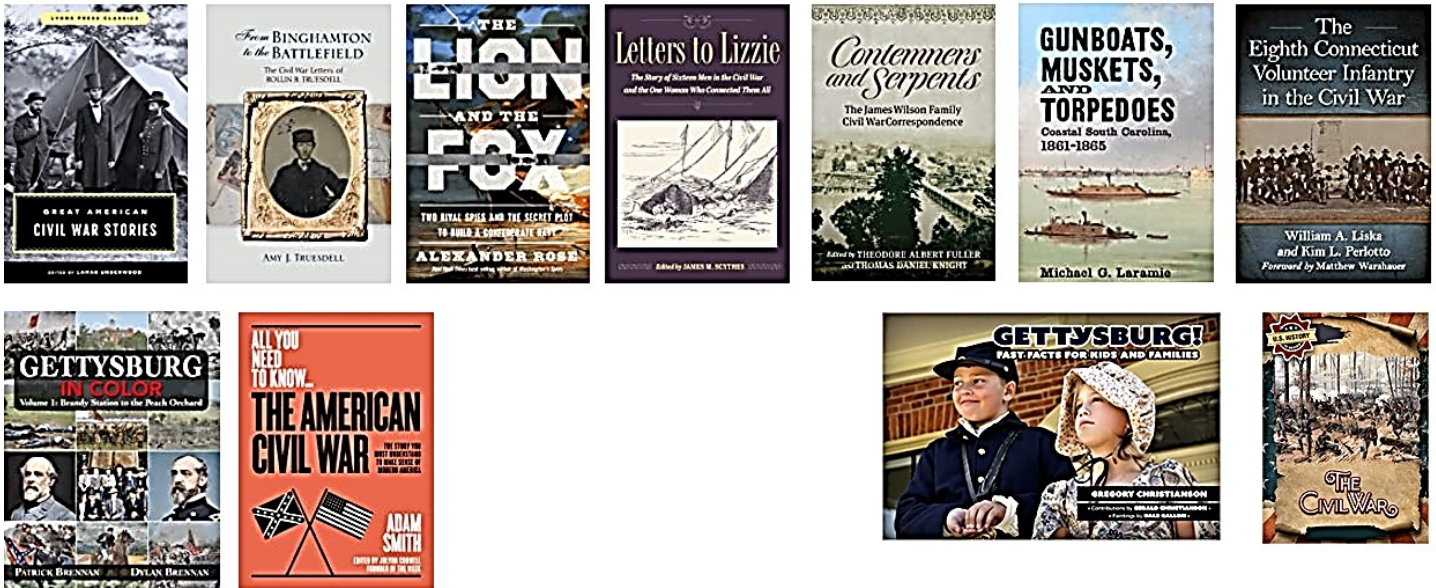
In conjunction with the planned lecture for our January 3, 2023, meeting, Round Table member Alan Lowcher has generously donated a print entitled "Ranger Mosby," rendered by artist Don Troiani, a painter well known for his accurate historical and military paintings. Raffle tickets can be purchased at our December and January meetings (10 tickets were sold at our November meeting) - **OR** - you can send a check to cover the number of tickets you wish to purchase to: CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc., P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105. (*All payment must be received by December 31, 2022.*) Tickets are at priced at \$5 each.

Proceeds will benefit preservation efforts.

NOTE: The print is signed and numbered but does **not** come with a certificate of authenticity. You'll be able to view the print to judge its quality at our December and January Round Table meetings.

December, 2022, Civil War Book Releases

We share, for informational purposes only, what is most certainly a partial listing of books currently earmarked for a December, 2022, release.



Great American Civil War Stories, by Lamar Underwood | Dec 1, 2022

From Binghamton to the Battlefield: The Civil War Letters of Rollin B. Truesdell, by Amy J Truesdell | Dec 1, 2022

The Lion And The Fox: Two Rival Spies and the Secret Plot to Build a Confederate Navy, by Alexander Rose | Dec 6, 2022

Letters to Lizzie: The Story of Sixteen Men in the Civil War and the One Woman Who Connected Them All, by James M. Scythes | Dec 6, 2022

Contemners and Serpents: The James Wilson Family Civil War Correspondence, by Theodore Albert Fuller and Thomas Daniel Knight | Dec 6, 2022

Gunboats, Muskets, and Torpedoes: Coastal South Carolina, 1861–1865, by Michael G. Laramie | Dec 12, 2022

The Eighth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, by William A. Liska and Kim L. Perlotto | Dec 20, 2022

Gettysburg in Color: Volume 1: Brandy Station to the Peach Orchard, by Patrick Brennan and Dylan Brennan | Dec 29, 2022 (*Previously scheduled for several, earlier releases*)

The American Civil War: The Story You Must Understand to Make Sense of Modern America, by Adam Smith | Dec 31, 2022

For Kids

Gettysburg! Fast Facts for Kids and Families, by Gregory Christianson | December 23, 2022

The Civil War (U.S. History in Review), by Sadie Silva | December 30, 2022

George A. Ellsworth: An Early American Hacker



The art of cryptography for entertainment, political and military purposes has existed since antiquity. But Ellsworth's exploits, both as a cryptographer and what we refer to today as a hacker, warrant recognition for his efforts in Confederate military counterintelligence and espionage. Eventually, Union telegraphers caught up with Ellsworth's pioneering efforts and struck back with their own attacks and the use of cipher telegrams to protect lines of communication.

Often assumed to have been a Southerner, Ellsworth was actually born and raised in Canada and lived a significant part of his life in the North. In the mid-1850s, urged on by his childhood fascination with the opening of the American West, 14-year-old Ellsworth took a job in Illinois as a railroad company telegrapher. He later wrote that he'd learned of the exploits of Confederate Brigadier General John Hunt Morgan by reading the newspaper and, in 1861, traveled to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to visit Morgan and offer his services.

As he wrote in his [1882 handwritten memoir](#):

"I gave him [Morgan] to understand that as he operated almost entirely inside of the enemy lines that I was satisfied I could be of material assistance to him by the use of the telegraph in throwing the enemy off his track and off their guard, give false reports of his whereabouts, countermand orders that would be likely to impede his progress into Kentucky etc. etc."

Just one day after Morgan's First Kentucky Raid began, on July 9, 1862, Morgan promoted Ellsworth from private to captain, and Ellsworth instantly became known as "Captain Lightning." Opinions on the origin of his nickname are mixed: Some say it alluded to the stormy night during which Ellsworth "disposed" of the telegraph operator on duty, connected his pocket telegraph to the live wires, and began intercepting federal messages and sending false messages to aid Morgan. Others say "Lightning" referred to the speed with which Ellsworth accomplished these tasks. A month later, *Harper's Weekly* dubbed Morgan as the "Highwayman of Kentucky." What the publication failed to mention was that Morgan's success was directly pinned to Ellsworth's ability to hack enemy telegraphs and spread disinformation.

Similar exploits ensued a month later, during Morgan's raid on Gallatin, Tennessee, on August 11th. On December 22nd, Morgan's men, Ellsworth among them, ventured into Kentucky on what would become known as the "Christmas Raid" (December 24th through January 1st), which resulted in a Yuletide gift for Southern loyalists that included the destruction of portions of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and the capture of 800 men of the 91st Illinois Infantry. Morgan's raid through Indiana commenced on July 2, 1863; his good fortune there was due, in part, to Ellsworth's reputation for telegraphic skills: Upon hearing that Morgan's raiders were on the move, the Yankees feared using the telegraph to communicate. Instead, they closed their offices and removed instruments and batteries, fearful that the Confederates would otherwise use the lines and equipment to their advantage.

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.

CAMPAIGN 45 MEMBERSHIP FORM (2022-2023)

Please complete the form below and mail it along with your Campaign 45 dues to **CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc., P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105**. Make your check payable to: "CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc."

Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> I am reenlisting for Campaign 45 <input type="checkbox"/> I am a new recruit	Indicate your membership preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time student: \$10
(Please print clearly, ESPECIALLY your email address!!)	
Name:	
Mailing address:	
Email address:	Phone number:
I am including a donation (in addition to my membership dues) \$ _____. <i>Your donation will be used by the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. to benefit preservation efforts related to the Civil War, e.g., supporting the vital work of museums and saving battlefield acreage from developers.</i>	
(NEW RECRUITS): Please tell us about your American Civil War interests and experiences:	
How did you hear of the CWRT Round Table of Eastern Pa.?	
Are you a reenactor (Yes/No)? If yes, unit(s)?	
Use the space below to share name(s)/unit(s) of ancestor(s) who fought in the Civil War:	
(NEW RECRUITS AND REENLISTERS): Do you have a particular interest in the Civil War? If yes, please elaborate in the space provided below:	
Are you willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War (Yes/No)?	
Are you interested in participating in Round Table activities? If yes, please specify below: <input type="checkbox"/> public functions <input type="checkbox"/> political action <input type="checkbox"/> preservation <input type="checkbox"/> living history <input type="checkbox"/> other (note below):	
<i>Sending newsletters and other information to our members via email speeds the distribution process and allows us to divert more funds to preservation and conservation. By providing us with your email address, you are giving the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. permission to contact you and/or send information to you via email. We rarely have a need to contact our members by phone, but having this information on file is occasionally very helpful. IMPORTANT NOTE: The CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. will NEVER share your contact information unless it has obtained your permission in advance to do so.</i>	

**The Civil War Round Table of Eastern, Pa., Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Your membership dues are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.**